

DAILY
SCIENCE EDITION

Getting a new lease on life

BY DAN HOGAN

Elephantine cows with giant udders, herbicide-resistant 'supertomatoes' and sheep that produce insulin-laced milk are among the first commercially viable offspring of genetic engineering research, thanks to a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing the patenting of animals.

Harvard University and two of its scientists have become the first to be issued a patent for a "transgenic" animal. By implanting a cancer-causing piece of DNA into a mouse egg, the scientists created a mouse genetically predisposed to breast cancer.

Many researchers and entrepreneurs hail the patent office's decision as a boost to research and the biotechnology industry.

The cancer-sensitive Harvard mouse, for example, could further cancer science because researchers can avoid testing carcinogens at unnaturally high doses. A future research animal could be an AIDS-sensitive mouse.

Transgenic animals could also open the doors to biotechnology companies that would profit from royalties generated from selling or licensing patented animals to researchers and farmers. Without the incentive of patent-generated royalties, few companies would be willing to invest the millions of dollars needed to develop a money-making genetically engineered animal.

But the Supreme Court's decision is meeting opposition. Farms groups argue that only those who can afford to pay the royalties for patented animals would benefit. Environmental and religious groups argue that patented animals will lead to more tampering with nature. These groups are lobbying Congress to place a moratorium on the further granting of animal patents until legislation concerning the economic, environmental and ethical implications can be passed.

NATURE'S END?

The controversy erupted in April, 1987, when the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

announced it would consider applications for "non-naturally occurring non-human multicellular living organisms." Originally against the patenting of all life forms, the patent office was forced to accept a 1980 Supreme Court decision (*Diamond versus Chakrabarty*) that genetically altered microorganisms could be patented. The court left open the possibility of patenting other life forms when it said that "anything under the Sun that is made by man" can be patented.

Opposition to the patent office's decision was swift. "They're saying that there is no difference between living things and electric toasters," said environmental activist Jeremy Rifkin, of the Foundation on Economic Trends. Rifkin has formed a coalition to pressure Congress to overturn the decision.

Michael Fox, scientific director of the U.S. Humane Society, said that the patent office's new policy, "by encouraging wholesale industrialized genetic manipulation and alteration of any number of species, could actually signify the end of the natural world."

When introducing legislation putting a two-year moratorium on animal patenting until Congress could impose 'safe' limits, Senator Mark Hatfield (Republican, Oregon) asked: "Will future generations follow the ethic of this patent policy and view life as mere chemical manufacture and invention, with no greater value or meaning other than as industrial products?" The legislation was narrowly defeated, but Representative Charles Rose (Democrat, North Carolina) introduced similar legislation last year and criticized the patent office for preempting Congress.

PATENTS FOR PROFITS

But others say the patenting of life forms is crucial to the biotechnology industry. During the 1980 Chakrabarty case, the U.S. firm Genentech said patenting is "an important if not indispensable factor in attracting private support for life-giving research." Genentech and other companies have argued that patenting is especially needed for genetically engineered life forms that are not sterile but can reproduce. Without patenting, a rival company could illegally obtain and breed genetically engineered organisms without having to pay royalties or high initial costs in developing the organism.

Patent advocates also say that denying patent protection would inhibit the free-flow of scientific information because companies would then rely on trade secrets to protect their genetic creations. Others say the biotechnology companies already rely heavily on trade secrets because the industry is ad-

vancing so fast that patent information can give rival companies a competitive advantage.

Still, the prospects of a biotechnology industry spurred on by profits generated by selling and licensing copyrighted life forms seem promising.

Chakrabarty's patent was for a genetically engineered bacteria that could degrade crude oil components and help clean up oil spills.

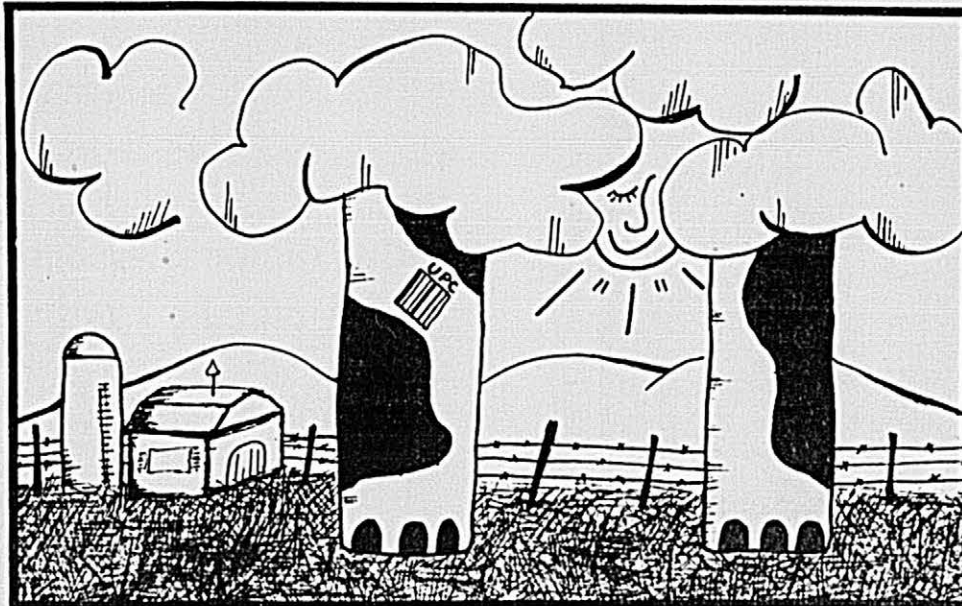
The U.S. firm Monsanto announced last year its 'supertomato' which resists tobacco mosaic virus and other diseases. Other patented pest- and herbicide-resistant plants could be on the market within the next four years.

Impoverished Third World countries, which cannot afford the expertise and ma-

be granted to small farmers, some still argue that high royalties could hurt many farmers. Farmers who continue to use traditional livestock may lose out to large-scale agribusiness using the cheaper, more productive artificial livestock.

Poor countries may also lose out to large biotechnology companies with exclusive rights to produce and sell genetically engineered agricultural products. A country that is dependent on a few crop varieties might have no choice but to pay royalties to a company which holds exclusive rights to some of those varieties.

Exclusive rights have also raised the question of whether companies can profit exclusively from joint university-industry research, much of which is publicly funded. Du Pont, for example, has an exclusive li-



ELEPHANTINE UDDER SPOTTINGS OVER MACDONALD CAMPUS

chinery to maximize crop yields, could benefit greatly from genetically engineered plants that do not need herbicides, pesticides, good growing conditions or much water.

More exotic genetically engineered life forms of the future may include elephant-sized "supercows" producing easily transportable condensed milk, a cud-chewing pig that can be fed cheaply with grass, and sheep whose milk contains pharmaceutical substances.

But the more exotic the life form, the more difficult it will be to engineer it. Current genetic manipulation techniques involve a "shotgun" approach whereby the desired gene is taken from one source of DNA and injected into the DNA of a mouse egg for example. But only one in a hundred mice offspring will be a stable transgenic animal. The results of genetically engineered livestock so far have been less successful.

DESIGNER LIVESTOCK

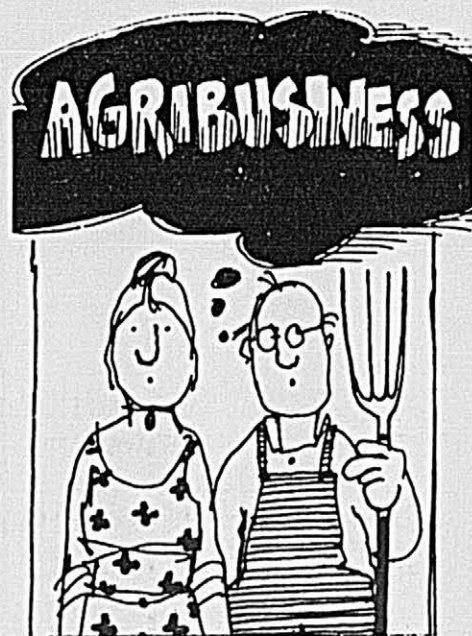
The mere prospect of patented livestock has farm groups worried. Last February, Jeremy Rifkin released a letter, leaked by the patent office, which said that breeding patented livestock without paying royalties "would seem to be an infringement" of patent laws. While limited breeding rights may

cence for the transgenic Harvard mouse.

Whatever will be the outcome of the debate over what kinds of life should be patented and how, patent offices will have to live with the headache of processing an ever increasing number of patents. The U.S. patent office is backlogged with twelve to fifteen thousand biotechnology related applications. The difficulty is in finding qualified patent experts who understand the complexities of genetic engineering.

Canadian patent law so far does not cover transgenic animals. In 1982, two years after the U.S. granted the first micro-organism patent, Canada followed suit and granted a patent to the Toronto-based Abitibi Company for a yeast culture engineered to digest pulp and paper waste products. Many expect the first Canadian animal patent within two years. The Europeans are under similar pressure from the American precedents.

"No country wants to be excluded from the race for life-saving serums and high-tech agriculture with its attendant huge profits and taxes," read an Ottawa *Citizen* editorial following the news of the Harvard mouse. But if patent-protected biotechnology can benefit corporations at the public's expense, countries will have to consider limiting the ownership of life.



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HILLEL'S CALENDAR

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with Rabbi Israel Hausman
3:15 p.m. • **FREE**

Thursdays beginning Feb. 9
The Breakfast Club

10:00 a.m.
Bagels, Cream Cheese
and coffee for only \$0.99

Friday, Feb. 10
Informal Dinner
5:00 p.m.

tickets must be purchased by Wednesday, Feb. 8

Cost: \$5.75; dorm chits accepted

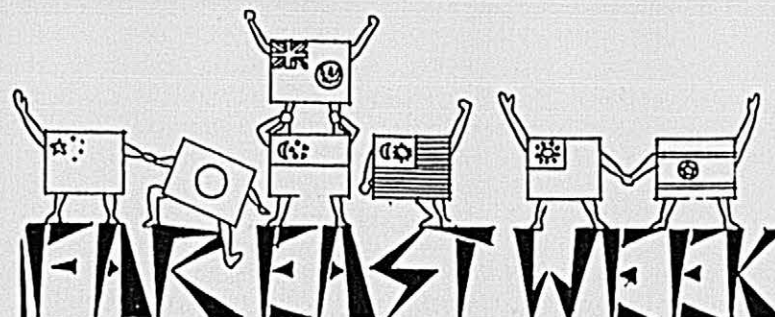
All events take place at **3460 Stanley Street.**

For more Info contact Ronit at 845-9171

NOTICE TO ALL STUDENTS

I.D. CARD VALIDATION

All I.D. cards must be validated by Friday, February 17, 1989 for the Winter Term. After that date a LATE VALIDATION FEE of \$5.00 will be charged. I.D. cards can be validated at the I.D. Center, Room 206, Eaton Building.



February 6 to February 11, 1989

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Schedule of Events

Monday

8:00 - 16:00 South East Asian Exhibit

Union Room 302

18:30 - 20:30 Korean Dinner

Koryo Restaurant

3442 St. Denis

Tickets \$12.00

Tuesday

10:00 - 16:00 Chinese Exhibit

8:00 - 16:00 South East Asian Exhibit

Union Room 302

Korean Exhibit

Union Room 310

14:00 GO-Club Simultaneous Games

Beginners Welcome

Union Lobby

17:00 - 19:00 GO-Club Seminar

Thursday

Korea & Dawn of a New Era

Speaker: Mr. Won-Hwa Park

13:30 Japanese Calligraphy

Demonstration

Union Room 302

Organizing Committees:
Chinese Engineering Undergraduate Society, Chinese Students Society, East Asian Language Department, Go-Club, Multicultural Society, Korean Students Society, South East Asian Students Society.

Thursday, con'd

14:00 Chinese Painting Exhibit: June

Eng.

Union Room 302

Friday

10:00 - 16:00 South East Asian Exhibit

Union Room 302

10:00 - 15:00 Computer Display

Chinese & Korean Software

McConnell Engineering Lobby

14:00 - 15:00 Martial Arts Demonstration

Tae Kwon Do & Karate

McConnell Engineering Common Room

19:30 - 22:00 Chinese New Year Dinner

Ten Course Meal

Tong Por Restaurant

43 La Gauchelière East

Tickets \$11.00

Saturday

17:30 Chinese Cultural Night

Pollack Concert Hall

Tickets \$5.00

Sponsored by: McGill Multicultural Society, Co-op McGill &



Carnival mismanagement costs students

by Jeanne Iribarne

McGill students could afford to be choosy this winter, with four carnivals to attend in January. The festivals are not supposed to make

money, but Students Society's and the Arts and Science Undergraduate Society's carnival's both went over budget.

The ASUS Nuclear Winter Week, January 9 to 13, cost the

society \$8800, over budget by almost \$2000. Organizers attribute most of the loss to wasted beer.

"Beer spillage," commonly known as 'drinking the profits,' is stolen or flat beer. Volunteers or roadies may drink on the job, or beer sitting pre-poured in plastic cups goes flat.

"I think we had a serious problem with spillage all week," said ASUS President Jeremy Boal. ASUS should have made 50 per cent of the beer sales from Wednesday night's Asexuals concert, but saw no profits.

Organizer PJ Murphy attributed the freeloading and loss to mismanagement. There was "a lack of people around who had a vested interest in the event," said Murphy.

ASUS VP Jennifer Fraser said not enough ASUS councillors came to help at events, pointing to the mess created at Kraft-Dinner Wrestling night, which costed \$260 to clean up.

ASUS spent most of their budget getting interesting American speakers in for students, featuring Bobby Seale and P.J. O'Rourke. The week

attracted 20 per cent of the Arts and Science faculties.

Attendance figures aren't available for SSMU's Winter Carnival yet, but according to SSMU organizer David Hoffman, "A good turnout is generally about 5000 at McGill."

SSMU's winter carnival, January 16 to 20, may also have lost money. From a total budget of \$22 000, the week should have made all but \$4500 back. Final figures are not yet in, but Hoffman said the carnival will probably go "slightly" over budget.

"I think they (SSMU) lost more than that," said Boal.

According to Hoffman, there are too many carnivals underway at once. "There are so many carnivals happening. Management has one, so does the ASUS and Engineering. It's about time that everybody got together to pool resources."

Engineering Week and the faculty of Management Winter Carnival both had about a fifty per cent turnout. Their budgets were also much smaller, each around \$3000. Management carnival organizer

Sunny Handa said they had over half the faculty involved as well as participants from other faculties. He attributed the higher turnout to greater faculty cohesion.

"It (the SSMU Carnival) was too fragmented. It's too big to organize anything. Management and Engineering are very lucky in that all the students are in one building," he said.

According to Boal, "they (SSMU) are out of touch with what students want. I mean, the Network has so much money and so many volunteers. With all that energy, those events could be the centrepiece."

"I think they're getting bad advice," he added. The McGill Programming Network, which organized the SSMU Carnival, had over 40 volunteers helping to co-ordinate events and guidance from SSMU staff.



Winter Carnival masked marauder.

Daily photo by Heidi Hollinger

Poli Speaking in tongues

by Stephane St-Onge

According to *La Presse* journalist Gerald LeBlanc, linguistic co-existence in Québec will inevitably lead to the assimilation of francophones into anglophone culture. According to Alliance Québec President Royal Orr, French must be promoted if the rights of Québec anglophones are to be guaranteed.

Both men spoke last week during the PoliSpeak lecture series.

LEBLANC'S REALITY

LeBlanc said it was "impossible" for anglophones and francophones to co-exist in this province. "If I desire to put my foot here, and you're foot is here, both cannot be in the same place," he said. "One of us will have to go."

LeBlanc considers his nationality to be that of a "Québécois who lives in Canada".

He said francophones have no where to go beyond Québec.

"People often say 'this is my country', yet they can move anywhere and call it their home," LeBlanc said. "I understand this desire, but I do not have a single place that can compare to Québec as my home."

LeBlanc says francophones just want "reasonable" rights.

"We are not asking for the right to exist, but simply to be tolerated."

According to LeBlanc the language issue is a "political game" that has nothing to do with reality.

"It's all politics," he said. "You fight for what you can."

He supported Québec Premier

Robert Bourassa's use of the Canadian Charter of Rights' 'nonwithstanding clause' against the Supreme Court's ruling against the constitutionality of Bill 101 under the Québec Charter of Rights.

"I do not feel at ease with the notwithstanding clause, but sometimes we must use it."

Some people fail to understand why the Québécois must fight for a French society within Canada, said LeBlanc.

"There is a 'melting pot' in North America, as in Canada," he said. "You must understand how small Québec feels in contrast to this world. If this is not taken into account, language laws do not make sense."

LeBlanc said that Anglophone culture would not be threatened if the Québec minority were forced into a Francophone 'melting pot'.

"English is safe. You cannot eliminate it," he said.

ORR'S LANGUAGE

Orr blamed Robert Bourassa's Liberal government for the current language conflict.

"Bourassa decided not to talk about the issue," Orr said. "What did this government do to promote the quality of French in this province, improve the general situation of this language, solving the signs issue?" he asked.

"Bourassa's term in office is a story of missed opportunities, bad strategic decisions, the irresponsible avoidance of key social issues," Orr told the media filled Leacock council room.

Orr said he would welcome a new provincial party to address the concerns of anglophones in Québec.

"Citizen concerns are about what is needed in a just society," he said.

He called for those concerned with social issues to "get into the structure (of society) and shake it."

"Parties should have a real im-

pact and not only marginalize minority groups," he said. "They should not be an Anglophone 'rump' which has no effect elsewhere."

Orr condemned "vandalism and terrorism". He said, "People need to talk about action, form political parties, march, and take on the responsibility to find a solution."

"The reality is that the French language is in trouble in this province," he said. "When French-speaking Québécois are preoccupied with their language concerns, they will not be able to hear our community's concerns."

Orr also accused Bourassa of consciously creating conflict between Francophones and Anglophones through his political tactics.

"He waited until he had Alliance Québec and groups such as Société St. Jean Baptiste at two extremes, and he said 'The only thing I can do is place myself in the middle.'"

"There are times when politicians fail us. This is a time when they have done so."

Citizens should question constitutional laws, said Orr.

"Since the Supreme Court decision in December, many institutions are being criticized, their prestige compromised."

"This is a bad message to give to citizens."

Orr does not support the 'nonwithstanding clause'.

"Citizens should not accept a constitution including such an insult as the 'notwithstanding clause,'" he said.

Nor does Alliance Québec support continued on page 8



Royal Orr pontificates at PoliSpeak.

Daily photo by Rachel Thorburn

Dean of arts resigns

by Stephanie Lachowicz

Dean Richard Salisbury suddenly resigned as Dean of Arts last week for health reasons. Professor Albert Schachter has been named Acting Dean of Arts until the fall.

Salisbury recently underwent surgery to remove a tumor from his left lung. He resigned because he doesn't have the energy to fulfil his duties while recuperating.

"I thought I could get back quite rapidly, but after my first week in intensive care I realized it was going to be a slow recovery," he said.

Schachter, former Classics Department Chair and Associate Dean of Arts, took over as Acting Dean January 23. Salisbury's resignation was announced by Principal David Johnston at the January 25 Senate meeting.

Schachter will remain Acting Dean of Arts until a permanent dean is appointed. McGill's Senate is in the process of nominating members to the selection committee and expects to fill the position by fall. Schachter is uncertain he is being considered for the permanent position.

Until a permanent dean is named, though, Schachter said it's business as usual for the Arts department.

Salisbury said he will not reapply for his old job as he will be beyond retirement age in two years, but hopes to resume teaching anthropology after recovering.

"I plan, though, to take a short leave of absence after my recuperation to get back into the academic swing of things," he said.

Heavy metal pollution makes its way into food chain

by Pippa B. Wysong
Canadian Science News

Metal pollution must now be considered a global problem, not just a regional issue, Canadian and Norwegian researchers warn.

Almost all industries produce metal, containing pollution, and thousands of tonnes of the metals are released into all parts of the environment—air, soil, and water, according to Dr. Jerome Nriagu, a research scientist at the National Water Research Institute in Burlington, Ontario, and Norwegian researcher Dr. Jozef Pacyna.

They have released a study that lists the average total amounts of toxic metals released by various industries around the world. Nriagu warns that no matter how metals are released from industry, they damage the environment and end up in the food chain.

"There is an urgent need to reduce the amount of metals going into our environment. These metals are not biodegradable, so they'll be around for a long, long time."

The study examines the industrial release of 16 metals considered toxic to humans, including lead, cadmium, arsenic, and mercury.

The researchers estimate that in 1983 over 330 000 tonnes of lead, 18 000 tonnes of arsenic, 7000 tonnes of cadmium, and 3000 tonnes of mercury were released into the environment as by-products and waste.

The study also contains a breakdown of the amounts of metal released by different industries. For example, production of non-ferrous metal accounted for about 22 000 tonnes of the total amount of lead released in 1983 alone. Other sources, such as smelters, power plants, fertilizers, sewage plants, oil combustion and refuse incinerators, were also taken into account.

According to Nriagu, the figures in the study represent typical amounts of metal pollution released each year.

"Once metal pollution builds to high levels, it's next to impossible to eliminate," said Nriagu.

He cites the example of lead from a local smelter contaminating topsoil in the Toronto neighbourhood of Riverdale. "If the soil gets contaminated what do we do with it?" Topsoil can be removed but it is just placed somewhere else and "we don't have the technology to decontaminate soil."

Once metal pollution gets into the environment, it spreads everywhere. If released through a smokestack, it comes down in rain and can contaminate water, soil, and eventually the food chain.

"It has become a global issue," Nriagu said. Those who live in developed countries "would be fooling themselves by believing that it's only a problem in the so-called underdeveloped countries."

Taking the slime out of black gold

by Aaron Derfel

MONTREAL (CUP): A group of Concordia University scientists say they have discovered a safe and cheap way of destroying the toxic PCBs found in oil so that it can be recycled.

"The key to our process is that we do it under mild conditions," said research vice-rector Cooper Langford, explaining that the three scientists have been able to destroy PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, at temperatures under 100 degrees centigrade—around water's boiling point.

The scientists have disintegrated PCBs in minuscule amounts of oil using a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acid while heating the toxic chemical compound with microwaves. After the chemical reaction, the PCBs disappear—leaving the oil uncontaminated.

The most widely used method of destroying PCBs is by burning them at 1200 degrees centigrade. But Langford said the incineration method is costly, destroys PCB-laced oil, and is potentially dangerous.

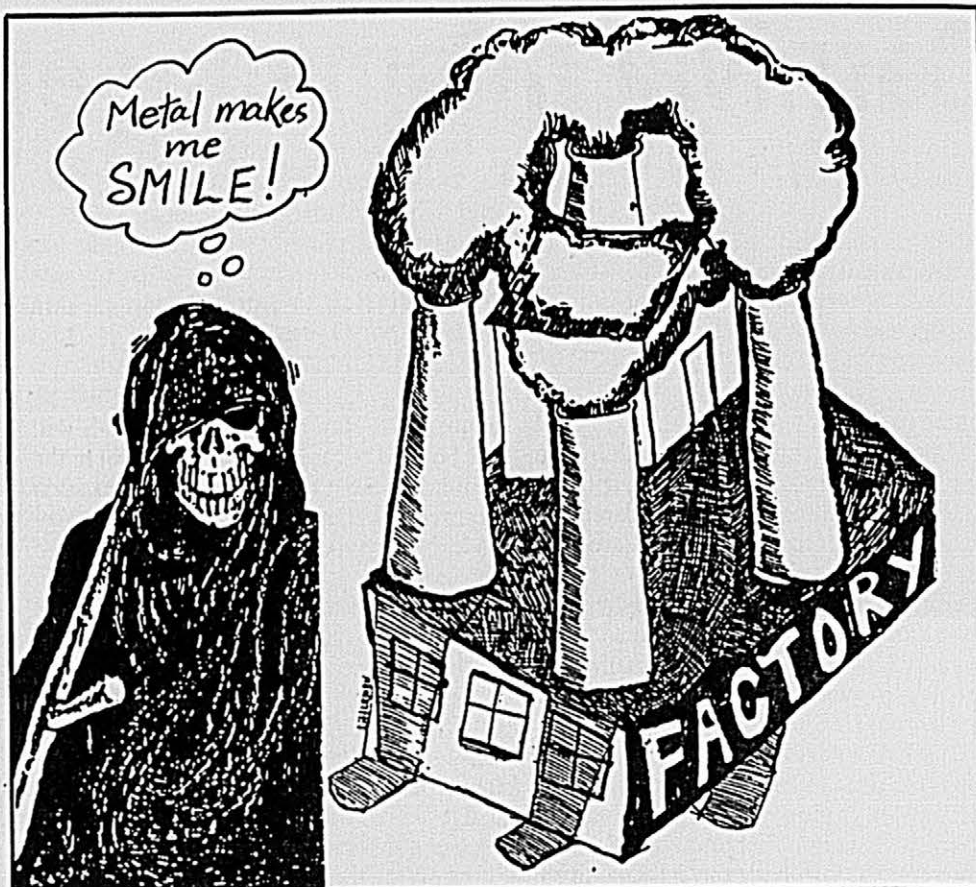
PCBs can cause liver and reproductive disorders and are suspected of causing cancer. They were widely used as a coolant in electrical equipment until 1977, when the federal government banned them after fears were raised about potential health hazards.

Environment Canada documents released in early September list 2500 PCB storage sites in the country—including major deposits at Carleton University and the universities of Lethbridge and Toronto.

There is only one PCB incinerator in Canada. It is in Alberta and refuses shipments from outside the province.

One of the scientists working on the project, associate biology professor Perry Anderson, said they may be able to remove PCBs from electrical transformers without destroying the equipment. He said the process, called photo-mineralization, can also work with other hazardous chemicals.

"In principle everything seems to be working very well, but we have to get in the actual products that are being used by firms



such as Hydro-Quebec," Anderson said. "We have yet to complete the work on samples of the nature that they use in transformers."

Langford said Concordia is applying for a research patent and is negotiating a grant with Hydro-Québec.

Hydro environment vice-president Louis Philippe Roy said they are interested in the Concordia research but added the university has not yet demonstrated the method can work on a large scale.

"It's a chemical reaction which has worked on a laboratory scale but it has to be tested on a larger scale and this is far from being done," Roy said.

Hydro has already destroyed PCBs in one million litres of mineral oil in transformers using substances such as metallic sodium.

The scientists have done consulting work with New Lite, a chemical research firm in London, Ontario, which is developing a way of removing PCBs from water.

New Lite general manager Mike Robertson said five companies in Canada, including Ontario Hydro, already destroy PCBs with metallic sodium, which explodes when mixed with water.

"What is different about what Concordia is doing is that their approach is a whole lot safer," Robertson said. "There's nothing to blow up."



Physicists conscripted

by Kim Binsted

Last week McGill physics students had the opportunity to learn of all that is fun and nifty about career opportunities with the Canadian military.

Gilles Ray, a researcher with the Canadian Defence Department (CDD), spoke to students on February 3 about Careers in Defence Science as part of the Careers in Physics lecture series.

Opening his lecture with a flashy video presentation which featured a mannequin strapped into an unspecified radiation device, Ray discussed the main research interests of the CDD.

Ray himself gets to study dust clouds. These are used to hide military vehicles. A high power explosive disperses clouds of bronze, aluminum, steel or carbon around a vehicle under fire, preventing its detection by electromagnetic radiation. "When the driver feels he is under attack, he presses a button

and is under cover within two seconds," said Ray. "If it is windy, he'll drive around with the cloud."

When asked about the potential hazards of shooting clouds of flaked metal into the atmosphere, Ray said "some materials will not be used because they are harmful to the health," without responding to the question of environmental danger. These 'dust grenades' are in production for use by the armed forces.

Other areas of research at CRVC include non-acoustic submarine detection, low-angle radar tracking for low-flying missiles, high frequency communication between satellites, and ANSAR8, a US Navy/Canadian Armed Forces "invisible system" collaboration. Over 130 scientists work with a budget of 16 million at CRVC, one of six such centres across Canada.

Many of the graphs that Ray displayed during his presentation bore the 'declassified' heading. "I'm allowed to publish the

unclassified material," he said, admitting that if he were to produce a smokescreen large enough to hide a significant area of land for a long time, his commanding officer (also a defence scientist) would classify the information.

Undergraduates were encouraged to apply for summer research with National Defence, while grad students were informed that about thirteen positions for researchers become open each year. About 50 interested students showed up at the lecture.

daily photo by Rachel Thorburn



There's no life like it.

Des risques à prendre pour notre survie

Pierre Carabin

Le Daily français du 24 janvier dernier présentait les points forts de la présentation d'Helena Norberg-Hodge sur le peuple Ladakhi, aux Indes. Présentée lors de la conférence McGill-MIT du Pugwash étudiant de McGill, cette présentation ne reflétait qu'un des aspects de la conférence.

Parmi les thèmes abordés, en plus de celui de la nécessité (ou de l'inutilité) du développement, il y avait aussi : les causes de la famine et les problèmes énergétiques. Tout cela dans le but d'analyser les causes des catastrophes, qui se produisent de plus en plus régulièrement dans notre monde moderne.

• La cause des famines est éminemment politique

On aborda ainsi le thème de la famine. Il fut évident qu'elle avait rarement des causes naturelles. Pour le Dr. Nevin Scrimshaw, professeur en nutrition et en science de l'alimentation au MIT, il est impossible d'identifier une seule famine qui ne soit pas d'origine politique — et il travaille sur ces questions depuis 30 ans. Du Biafra à l'Éthiopie, en passant par le Soudan, toutes les famines eurent pour cause le désir d'un gouvernement d'écraser la population dans une région rebelle. Pour lui, même les États-Unis ont des politiques qui créent des famines : au Nicaragua par exemple.

Les politiques économiques sont aussi une source de famine. Le Dr. Scrimshaw explique que, malgré ses grandes réserves de céréales, l'Inde n'arrive pas à nourrir sa population. De même, le don de nourriture à des pays du tiers-monde détruit les cultures locales. Le nord a tout intérêt à écarter son blé : « les motivations de l'aide alimentaire ne sont pas purement altruistes ».

Pour le docteur R. Padmini, de l'UNICEF, les populations du tiers-monde sont victimes du pouvoir : les gouvernements ont des politiques nationales inappropriées et des réseaux de distribution d'aide d'urgence inadéquats; les multinationales et les grands propriétaires possèdent une grande partie des terres.

« La famine n'est pas une tragédie en un acte. » Elle a pour cause la marginalisation des paysans, dépossédés de leurs terres et dévalorisés par le développement industriel.

Pourtant, le docteur Padmini garde un certain optimisme. Des systèmes permettent de remettre les moyens de production dans les mains des communautés. En Inde, il n'y a plus de famine à grande échelle grâce à des projets locaux.

• Des aberrations énergétiques

Un autre des thèmes de la conférence était l'énergie. Et, là encore, les politiques sont à la source des désastres.

Terry Sabonis-Chafee, du Rocky Mountain Institute, un institut de consultation sur les questions énergétiques, présentait quelques aberrations de notre consommation d'énergie.

D'abord, les congélateurs sans givre ont besoin d'une chauffeuse à l'intérieur pour les dégivrer! Ensuite, les postes de télévision d'aujourd'hui, sont sous tension en permanence, même lorsque les télévisions sont éteintes. Pour alimenter toutes ces télévisions éteintes, il faut l'équivalent d'une centrale électrique de taille moyenne. Enfin, le gouvernement des États-Unis a décidé récemment de réduire les normes de consommation d'essence de 27 miles au gallon à 26 miles au gallon. Cette réduction correspond à la quantité de pétrole qu'on espère trouver dans une réserve faunique en Alaska. L'ouverture de cette réserve aux prospecteurs a causé tout un émoi aux États-Unis, car cela risque d'y détruire l'écosystème.

Pour Mme Sabonis-Chafee, cela illustre bien que la technologie pour économiser l'énergie existe, mais que nous ne l'utilisons pas.

Il y a tout au plus, selon les projections, des réserves de pétrole pour une trentaine d'années. Pourtant, nous continuons de consommer à un rythme effréné. En 2020, le tiers-monde, à lui seul, consommera autant d'énergie que le monde entier à l'heure actuelle.

• Que faire?

Devant ces faits inquiétants, les étudiants ne perdent pas leur enthousiasme. Lors de la plénière, on a établi clairement que les changements doivent se faire par chacun d'entre nous.

Plusieurs solutions furent proposées : s'impliquer dans la radio communautaire, la presse alternative, faire des levées de fonds. On rappela aussi qu'il ne fallait pas confondre travailler dans le tiers-monde avec tourisme : l'entraide doit être bilatérale; les occidentaux doivent perdre leur attitude de colonisateur.

Un étudiant de McGill, Paul White, se dit inquiet « de nous voir devenir une bande de professeur en veston de tweed discutant de développement une tasse de cappuccino à la main. » A cela, un conférencier, Scott Paradise, du MIT, avait déjà répondu que d'affirmer ses opinions était peut-être risqué pour sa réputation académique, mais que c'était « un risque qu'il nous faudra prendre si nous voulons contribuer à la survie de la race humaine. »

Oracle: Flakes get stoned



Is it true that no two snowflakes are alike?

Yes, and no.

The structure of all snowflakes arises from the same chemical underpinnings. The chemical rules which govern freezing water dictate a snowflake's six fold design and symmetrical shape. Within these guidelines, a snowflake's pattern is determined by random forces, allowing for a diversity of sizes and shapes.

This doesn't mean that no two snowflakes can be alike. In all the snowfalls across the planet since time began, there have may have been at one pair of twins. However, the chances of any one person actually seeing such a pair is extremely small, given the number of possible patterns available.

Why does salt melt snow?

When salt dissolves in water, it lowers the freezing point of the water. The small salt particles interfere with the water particles as they try to form the molecular pattern which is, macroscopically, ice or snow.

Of course, salt water can freeze as well, but it does so at a much lower temperature. Thus, the ocean rarely freezes at this latitude, though rivers often do.

Is it true that a feather and a stone of the same weight will fall at the same speed?

No. A feather has much more air resistance than a stone. The feather will float gently to the ground, supported by the air, while the stone plummets, even if they have the same mass.

However, in the absence of air, a feather and a stone will fall at the same speed, regardless of their weights. This happens because an object's acceleration in a gravitational field is independent of the object's mass.

In other words, both a sperm whale and a pot of petunias would hit the ground at the same time if they were to materialize together above an airless planet. But if they materialized above Earth, the petunias would smash first.

ALL DAILYITES: STAFF MEETING

TODAY AT 5:00 P.M. - B03
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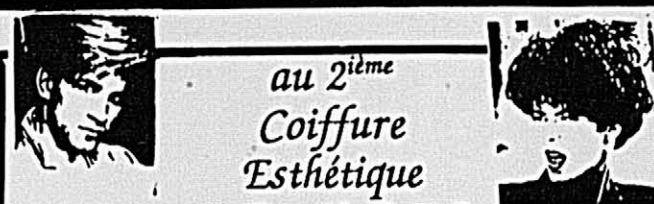
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CLASSIFIEDS

Ads may be placed through the *Daily* business office, room B-17, Union Building, 9h00 - 15h00. Deadline is 14h00 two weekdays prior to date of publication.

McGill students: \$3.00 per day; \$7.00 for 3 consecutive days. McGill Faculty and Staff: \$4.00 per day. All others: \$4.50 per day. There is a 25 word limit. There will be a charge of 25¢ for each word over the limit. Boxed ads are available at \$4.00 per ad per day - no discounts on boxing. **EXACT CHANGE ONLY PLEASE.**

The *Daily* assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The *Daily* reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

341 - APTS., ROOMS, HOUSING

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352 - HELP WANTED

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McGill Nightline is a student run telephone service. Volunteers are here to provide information, good conversation or just an interested ear ... Call us any night at 398-6246.

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Near new pine double futon frame for sale - \$100 - call 398-9060 after 6 pm.

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367 - WANTED TO BUY

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374 - PERSONALS

Need Information? Feeling lonely? Just want to chat? Then call McGill Nightline! We are students talking to students. 398-6246, 7 days a week, 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. Anonymous and confidential.

Gays and Lesbians of McGill offer a peer counselling service, Monday through Wednesday, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. 398-6822. It's a chance to talk.

Frosty says...

"Help Wanted. Able-bodied woman to care for sick Frosty. Oppressive Dailyites need not apply."

Make your own Sundaes for \$1, Friday, February 3, 7 p.m. at 3495 University (Presbyterian College) Sponsored by McGill Christian Fellowship. Don't Miss It!!!

Dear Teddy - Feb 8: ROADTRIP! You know it's winter when the ground is all "white", Feb 12: You...Me...Fools in the rain...!VU2 ∞ -Pet Snowball

To the cute, blond rower in Heaphy's accounting, do you have a girlfriend? If you're curious answer back. Signed an interested blond. J.K.

Alex K. You're a beautiful person. Thank-you for your honesty. You're one of a select few. You

saved my weekend. Brian D.

Hey, you sexy thing! Happy Birthday Christy-baby! Love from T2 and W1st.

383 LESSONS OFFERED

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385 - NOTICES

ANIMALS: Do they matter? Let's stop the exploitation of our fellow creatures. Steve 272-5064.

McGill Hellenic Association: Annual dance. Sat., Feb. 11/89, 20h. Hellenic Community Centre, 5757 Wilderton Ave. Door prize: one round trip ticket to Greece.

Attention McGill Women: Potluck supper awaiting you Thursday evening, Feb. 9, Pleasant atmosphere and new friends will welcome you. Info: 398-6823 (12h-16h weekdays). McGill Women's Union. Don't be shy, drop by!

McGill Nightline: When you want someone to talk to who will really listen, phone McGill Nightline. We're here from 18h to 3h every night. 398-6246.

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Time: Wed., Feb. 8, 1989 - 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Place: Staff lounge, room 227
Wilson Hall,
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*Come hear what students and graduates have to say
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ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

Income Tax Receipts for Tuition Fees and Education Amount

There have been several changes to the tax treatment of tuition fees and the education amount for the 1988 taxation year under tax reform.

Tuition Fees

1. Beginning in 1988, tuition fees may only be claimed on a calendar year basis. The fees for the January - April 1988 semester were shown on last year's tax receipt. You may claim the January - April 1988 fees on your 1988 tax return only if you did not claim them on your 1987 tax return. The 1988 tax receipt (to be mailed at the end of February) shows the fees paid for the period May to December 1988. These rules apply to both Federal and Quebec taxes. An illustration of a 1988 tax receipt follows:

Session Periods	Tuition Fees	No. of Months in Full Time Attendance
Jan. 88 - Apr. 88	NA	4
Sep. 88 - Dec. 88	334.95	4
Totals	334.95	8

2. For Federal tax purposes, a tax credit equal to 17% of tuition fees paid for 1988 is to be claimed instead of a deduction. A deduction is still claimed for Quebec purposes.

3. For Federal tax purposes, the unused portion of tuition fees may now be transferred to a supporting parent, or spouse. Not so for Quebec: only students may claim a deduction for tuition fees, even if the fees were paid by another person.

Education Amount (Federal Only)

1. Previously an education deduction of \$50 per month for each month of full time attendance at university could be claimed. Beginning in 1988, a tax credit equal to 17% of \$60 per month for each month in attendance may be claimed.

2. The Education amount continues to be transferable and based on the calendar year. Thus the illustration above shows four months for the period January to April 1988.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the following offices.

Questions related to the tuition portion of the receipt:	Questions related to the education amount and/or TP697:
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Israel, the P.L.O., and the Possibilities for Peace

Wednesday, February 8,
5:00 p.m.

Hillel House
3460 Stanley Street
sponsored by McGill Hillel

and
DR. HAIM SHAKED

Moshe Dayan Centre, Tel-Aviv University and Director of Middle East Studies, University of Miami

The Arab-Israel Conflict: Regional and International Contexts

Thursday, February 9,
8:30 p.m.

Concordia University
Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve W.
Rm. H-920

sponsored by Hillel-Concordia Jewish Student Union and the Student Coalition for a Just Peace in the Middle East

Letters

To the Daily:

Like many other McGill students I was shocked and horrified by the despicable message sent to one of the coordinators of the McGill Coalition Against Sexual Assault on Jan. 31. That epistle serves as a reminder to us all that among the seemingly intelligent, civilized, open-minded people we go to school with there are misogynists whose attitudes toward women and toward the problem of sexual assault are not only archaic, but sick and potentially dangerous. The very fact that such magazines as *Penthouse Letters* are published and widely circulated demonstrates what a patriarchal society we live in and how the sexual roles displayed in that magazine are condoned by society.

Just yesterday, a friend of mine was told by a man not to talk to a member of the Coalition Against Sexual Assault "because they're all lesbians". His use of the word "lesbian" as a pejorative term demonstrates his inability to cope with the idea of women preferring other women to men. But most importantly, the problem of sexual assault is one faced by all women, whether heterosexual or homosexual, because whether or not a woman prefers men, she does not want to be raped.

Nina Moritsugu
Arts U3



To the Daily:

Mani Haghighi's "Blasting the Objective Myth" was a powerful attack against the intellectually bankrupt notion of objective journalism. It was also a good response to past and present accusations that the *Daily*, and, particularly, its Supplement, contain biased reporting.

However, I believe that both the criticism of the *Daily* and Haghighi's response to it are intellectualizations of an emotional issue: it's the newspaper's sarcastic and "know it all" attitude that irritate people, not the *Daily's* actual opinions.

Haghighi's article alludes to this by calling the *Daily* "upfront and unapologetic...journalism in its most active form." It seems to me that there are two reasons for the *Daily's* style: 1) it's fun, 2) by creating an atmosphere of conflict, it excites people to respond and, hopefully, to think. However, the *Daily* should beware not to let its style dominate its content, because the power of an article's ideas can become lost if the reader is busy being irritated by the journalist's attitude. I believe that an article is enhanced by sarcasm if it is subtle and clever, but not if it's a tool for blatant insults.

In any case, Haghighi is correct when he writes that "Passive journalism is unethical," but the answer to his question "Why such intolerance?" has more to do with the heart than the head.

Neal Colgrass
U1 Arts

To the Daily:

As a friend of the young lady who was allegedly assaulted at the start of the year, and even more so as a rational human being, I am in strong support of the sexual assault awareness campaign staged by the women's union. However, I have to take issue with the establishment of a discussion group entitled "Do fraternities perpetuate a negative attitude towards women?"

I am not so idealistic as to claim that fraternities do not perpetuate such an attitude. However, if they do so, they do it in so much as they are composed strictly of men, without the tempering influence of women. There are many other groupings in society which fit this description, such as hockey teams, and private boys schools. A more appropriate discussion might have centred on why men, when in groups (of whatever nature), tend to perpetuate these negative attitudes. The posing of the question in this context presupposes an affirmative answer. It also involves the tacit



assumption that fraternities are the primary cause of these negative attitudes, when in fact, the problem runs much deeper than this. By restricting the discussion to fraternities, the women's union has managed to turn a topic worthy of serious psychological, sociological and philosophical consideration into mere frat-bashing. As a result, they have accomplished nothing.

Ian Walker
Philosophy U2



To the Daily:

For the benefit of future *Daily* contributors and to set the record straight, I feel compelled to comment on the irresponsible editing of my article in the latest Environment issue (Jan. 30).

In particular, the conclusions made in this article on deep ecology were totally contrived by the editors and do not reflect my opinion at all. In fact, their remarks contradict the very substance of the text. The philosophy of deep ecology is an attempt to validate individual experience and values as a basis of self-expression and political action. In this kind of philosophy, spirituality is not viewed as "spiritual baggage"; rather it is an essential part of a fulfilled existence.

Although the editors obviously find it hard to resist the temptation to alter submitted articles for the expression of their own political dogma, just save the editorializing for your own articles. Future contributors, beware.

Laura Gartner
Biogeography U3

To the Daily:

As an English student studying at McGill university, Bill 101 concerns me, as I'm sure it does other students as well. I question this Bill with regard to how I feel it will damage the province of Québec. Students are just many in a thousand of the victims that will be af-

fected by the Bill. It is very visible to me however, that students stand far above the crowd in this matter, is horrifying to think that the entire educational system in this province might eventually be open to the french or completely bilingual students.

As well as being a student I am also representing a Canadian citizen and I am feeling as if my rights are being removed or altered. Canada has very prominently been labelled a bilingual country and Québec will be destroying this label. Discrimination is shining through brightly and as a result english residents might abandon Québec and settle in another province.

The Bill will also affect the economic side of Québec greatly. Large businesses will evacuate Québec for other provinces repeating what occurred years ago as a result of Bill 101. Tourism will also be hurt. Perhaps people will think twice about coming to a society where hostility towards other languages is evident, and will want to opt for more variety in a cosmopolitan society.

Canada is full of culture and is admired by so many for this attribute. Why must this province decide for its members what language they are to display? We are all part of the same country. French I believe is fine to demonstrate, but I strongly feel that english or any other language must be allowed as well. For

since we are the future of this province. The entire educational system will be a large target for unfair change if this Bill is to be passed. I believe this is true because it will be difficult for the system to function with the english language if the rest of society is working with french.

This bill will certainly alter my future as an english Canadian residing in Québec if it is passed. I am convinced at this moment that I will eventually leave the province to seek employment elsewhere. The question is also on my mind as to whether I should continue my education at McGill. If many unjust changes are to occur as a result of this Bill, university in a not so frustrated province would probably be best. It is for this reason that I am strongly opposed to Bill 178.

Hilary Abbey

...Polispeak

continued from page 3
port the Meech Lake constitutional accord.

According to Orr, the accord does not protect civil rights.

"We cannot support the accord," he said. "It should provide adequate protection for minority rights, and promote the language duality. Instead, the French language is promoted."

Orr recently launched a libel suit against *Le Journal de Montréal* and *Télémedia* for reporting he allegedly set fire to the Alliance-Quebec offices.

EVENTS

McGill Foster Parents Association: Meeting, Union 310, 7:30 p.m. Focus is on poverty stricken children in the third world.
McGill University Relations Office: presents "It is Time for Dialogue" Encounters of the Two Solitudes. The First Encounter will be at 9 a.m. in Room 212 of the Leacock Building. It will feature Richard French, former Quebec Minister of Communication; Louise Harel, Parti Québécois MNA; Jean Dorion, Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste President of the Language Committee; Eric Malloff, former President of Alliance Quebec; Pierre Paquette, Conseil central de Montréal President; Charles Taylor, McGill Professor of Political Philosophy; Lysiane Gagnon, La Presse columnist; and Angelo Nikolakis, student of Political Science, McGill. Admission Free. Doors at 9 a.m.
The Second Encounter will be at 2 p.m. in Room H-110 of the Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve, Concordia University. It will feature a Liberal MNA to be announced; Pauline Marois, Parti Québécois Vice President; Michael Goldbloom, former President of Alliance Quebec; Yvon Charbonneau, former President of the Centrale de l'enseignement du Québec; Don MacPherson, Gazette columnist; Gerald LeBlanc, La Presse columnist; Graham Decarie, Chairman of Concordia University Department of History; and Siobhan Harty, Concordia student and Rhodes Scholar. Admission Free. Doors open at 2 p.m.
Both Encounters will be moderated by Bob Keaton, Chairman of the Department of Political Science, Dawson College. Sponsored by the McGill Department of Political Science, Concordia Department of History, Concordia and McGill Political Science Students Association, McGill Arts and Science Undergraduate Society, and Students Society of McGill University.
Cultural Development Week: "Towards a Global Civilization" with Dr. Gregory Baum, Department of Religious Studies, McGill University. Union Ballroom, 12:00 noon. Sponsored by the Association for Bahá'í Studies at McGill.
Americans Abroad: General Meeting, Union 410, 3 p.m. Info: 848-9680.
McGill University Libraries-Undergraduate Services Workshops:
Engineering Library Research Workshop, Phys. Sci. & Engineering Library, 3-4 p.m. Register at 398-4769. Meet at Reference Desk.
Health Sciences Library Research Workshop (Anat., Biol., Biochem., Med., Microbiol., Physiol., P & OT etc.), Health Sciences Library, 3-4 p.m. Register at 398-4756. Meet at Reference Desk.
Social Sciences Library Research Workshop (Econ., Geog., Pol. Sci., Psychol., Social, etc.), McLennan Redpath Library, 3-4 p.m. Register at 398-5030. Meet at Info Desk, McLennan Lobby.

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Daily

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